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NEWS RELEASE

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St. George restaurant owner faces felony state sales tax evasion charges

The owner of Pirate Island Pizza in St. George has been charged with eight felonies for failure to submit over \$90,000 in collected sales tax to the State.

James Linn Mayoros, 38, faces tax evasion, unlawful dealing of property by a fiduciary and pattern of unlawful activity all in connection with his business. Five second degree and three third degree felony charges have been filed.

A criminal investigation by the Utah State Tax Commission determined that Mayoros collected more than \$90,000 in sales taxes from his customers between December 2008 and September 2010.

"He then fraudulently kept these trust funds for his own use without remitting them to the State for essential local and state public services," said Charlie Roberts, Tax Commission spokesman.

Mayoros was arrested Friday in St. George after a warrant had been obtained. Washington County Sheriff's Office assisted with the arrest.

His initial appearance in court has not yet been scheduled.

This matter will be prosecuted by the Utah Attorney General's Office.

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